

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: October 25, 1989

Region II  
Air and Hazardous Substances Staff  
Caribbean Field Office  
Sanjurjo, Puerto Rico 00910  
and  
Response and Prevention Branch  
Edison, New Jersey 08837

TO: C. Sinamon-Eristoff, EPA  
S. Luftig, EPA  
R. Salkie, EPA  
M. Randol, EPA  
P. Gelabert, EPA  
B. Sprague, EPA  
G. Paylou, EPA  
W. Sawyer, EPA  
E. Schaaf, EPA  
B. Metzger, EPA  
ERD Washington  
(E - Mail)  
USDO 7th District  
(mop)  
NRC  
J. Lee, DOE  
A. Zach, USGS  
B. Nelson, ATSDR  
J. Anderson, HHS  
C. Mannion, OSHA  
M. Chivinski, FEMA  
J. Connally, FEMA  
J. Swanson, FEMA  
✓ Caribbean RRT  
A. Smith, VIDPNR  
Dr. Green, VIDOH  
B. Harvey, VITEMA  
TAT

POLREP NO.: Ten (10)  
INCIDENT/SITE NO.:  
POLLUTANT: Possible PCBs, pesticides, asbestos and other  
hazardous materials  
CLASSIFICATION: Unknown  
SOURCE: Hurricane-caused spills  
LOCATION: U.S. Virgin Islands  
AMOUNT: Unknown at this time  
AFFECTED MEDIUM: Soil (potential), air (potential), water  
(potential).

1. SITUATION:

Refer to POLREP ONE (1)

2. ACTION TAKEN:

October 25, 1989

ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN

A. EPA met with Leonard Reed and Gregory Rhymer from DPNR to discuss the following issues:

1. Possible asbestos contamination in public schools. DPNR will provide an inventory report done by DOE on asbestos in schools and a list of affected schools.
2. PCB transformers survey and sampling. DPNR and WAPA will provide a list of fallen transformers.
3. EPA provided to DPNR EPA's "Guidance for Infectious Waste Management".
4. EPA provided copy of Pollution Report (POLREP).

B. EPA is continuing work with FEMA regarding the St. John Hospital infectious waste site entry, debris cleanup and disposal alternatives.

C. EPA provided FEMA with goals and cost estimate for the mission assignment.

ST. CROIX

A. Four new TATs arrived from the mainland to assist with the environmental assessment of St. Croix and to support the EPA initiatives involving St. Thomas and St. John.

B. TAT screened thirteen (13) oil and soil samples collected earlier from downed/leaking transformers for PCB contamination. Four (4) samples were positive for PCB (i.e. > 50ppm) and one was verified by replicate screening. Up to October 25, 1989, TAT reports the following totals for the PCB transformer survey:

- |                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| 1. No. of transformers checked:     | 93 |
| 2. No. of leaky transformers found: | 24 |
| 3. No. of screened transformers:    | 24 |
| 4. No. tested positive for PCB:     | 7  |
| 5. No. of rescreened positives:     | 2  |

C. The OSC met with DPNR staff to coordinate efforts regarding the VIWAPA oil spill cleanup. The affected areas were toured by the OSC, DPNR and WAPA representatives.

D. WAPA increased efforts to remove contaminated debris from the Pelican Cove area.

E. An estimated 40,000 cubic yards of contaminated sand is stockpiled throughout the affected areas. WAPA is to arrange to have the piles inspected and stabilized pending disposal decisions and arrangements. WAPA is preparing a contaminated sand disposal proposal for DPNR approval.

F. EPA OSC toured the Pelican Cove area with the USCG OSC. Significant oil contamination found beneath the sand.

10/26/89

ST. Croix

A. EPA took lead from the USCG on the WAPA oil spill.

B. EPA met with DPNR and WAPA to discuss plans and strategies for continuing cleanup.

3. MEASURES WHICH COULD AVOID RELEASES OF SIMILAR NATURE:

Unknown at this time.

4. FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. EPA will continue to participate in FEMA coordination meetings.

B. TAT will continue PCB transformers survey and sampling on St. Croix. All samples that tested positive will be resampled and screened for verification.

C. TAT will initiate PCB transformer survey/sampling on St. Thomas and St. John after completing the St. Croix survey.

D. EPA will provide FEMA with Daily Pollution Reports (POLREPs).

E. TAT and DPNR will visit the pesticide storage areas in ST. Croix affected by the hurricane to do a risk assessment.

F. TAT will interview St. Croix Hospital representative to collect information on usual disposal procedures of medical/infectious waste.

G. EPA to mobilize on 10/27/89 trailers which include sleeping quarters for contractors, and telecommunications

equipment. This equipment will be used to effect the Superfund Removal Action at VI Chem and to provide a command post for Hugo related activities.

FURTHER POLREPS FORTHCOMING: X . FINAL POLREP: \_\_\_\_\_.

SUBMITTED BY: C.E. Fitzsimmons . DATE RELEASED: 10-28-87

Charles Fitzsimmons, OSC

and/or

Carlos O'Neill, OSC

Caribbean Field Office and  
Response and Prevention Branch